

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0008] with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] A special type of surface heating ~~is the above described~~ a heating method using a gas flame where the flame temperatures are typically around 1000°C. Heating by means of a gas burner mostly takes place in that the heat energy of the hot gas is transferred across the surface of the glass-ceramic blank or glass blank. This may result in a temperature gradient that can adversely affect the forming because of viscosity gradients, for example. This particularly applies to glass thicknesses of ≥ 5 mm.

Please replace paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] Infrared radiation hollows are described, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 4,789,771 and EP 0 133 847, ~~the disclosures of which are expressly incorporated herein by reference.~~ whose disclosure content has been fully incorporated in this application. Preferably, the portion of the infrared radiation which is reflected and/or scattered by the wall surfaces, the floor and/or the ceiling is more than 50% of the radiation impinging on the surfaces.